

## REMARKS

Claims 6-19 and 23 are presently pending. Claims 6-19 stand rejected. Claim 23 is added. Claims 1-5, and 20-22 are cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable from Steudel in view of Kim. As an initial matter, it appears that Examiner intended to reject claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). To the extent that Examiner intended to rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), Assignee traverses because the Office Action fails to establish teaching of all the limitations in a single reference.

Claim 6 recites, among other limitations, "shortening a blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data, without dropping any of the video frames". The Office Action indicates that Steudel does not teach "shortening the blanking period". However, the Office Action does indicate that Kim describes "shortening the blanking period to send side channel (auxiliary) data".

Kim was filed on June 14, 2001, while the present application claims priority to January 24, 2001. Accordingly, Kim is not prior art. Therefore, Assignee respectfully traverses the rejection to claim 6 and 23, as well as the dependent claims.

## CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, each of the pending claims are allowable, thereby placing the application in a condition for allowance. Examiner is requested to pass this case to issuance. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-0017 in the name of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



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